

Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /072 W
----- 039202

R 121259Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4899

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 7183

E O 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, MASS, IS

SUBJECT: MULTI-ANNUAL MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR ISRAEL

1. MAARIV (SEGEV) ARTICLE DEC 11 REPORTS FONMIN ALLON
WAS TOLD IN WASHINGTON THAT ADMIN WILL ASK
CONGRESS FOR FINANCING OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE ON YEAR-BY-
YEAR NOT RPT NOT MULTI-ANNUAL BASIS.

2. TEXT FOLLOWS:

" ALLON HAS BEEN TOLD THAT THERE CAN BE NO GUARANTEES
OF US MILITARY AID FOR ISRAEL ON A MULTI-ANNUAL BASIS --
PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARIES KISSINGER AND SCHLESINGER
HAVE EXPLAINED TO HIM THAT THEY WOULD NOT DARE ASK
CONGRESS FOR SUCH A COMMITMENT IN THE PRESENT STATE OF
THE ECONOMY-- BUT HAS BEEN ASSURED THAT THE ADMINISTRATION
IS NOW SEEKING WAYS TO MAKE SURE THAT THE PROMISED
AID WILL BE FORTHCOMING ANNUALLY. SENATORS HUMPREY,
JACKSON AND KENNEDY ALSO TOLD MR ALLON THEY DID NOT
THINK CONGRESS WOULD AGREE TO VOTE A MULTI-ANNUAL AID
PROGRAM IN ITS PRESENT MOOD. US ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS
HAVE ASSURED ISRAEL THAT THERE IS NO QUESTION OF
RENEGING ON PROMISES, BUT THAT ISRAEL SEEMS TO HAVE AN
EXAGGERATED VIEW OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S ABILITY TO PUSH
LEGISLATION THROUGH. ISRAELI SOURCES SAY THAT ISRAEL
HAS NO COMPLAINTS WHATSOEVER ABOUT MILITARY RELATIONS
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BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES: ALL SUPPLIES FOR WHICH

CONTACTS HAVE BEEN SIGNED, ARE DELIVERED ON TIME, AND THERE ARE AMPLE SIGNS OF GOOD WILL IN OTHER RESPECTS, SUCH AS SENDING GOODS TO ISRAEL DIRECTLY FROM EXISTING UNIT STOCKS. THE SITUATION WILL THEREFORE BE THAT AID PROGRAMS WILL BE DESIGNED ON A MULTI-ANNUAL BASIS, BUT THE ADMINISTRATION WILL ASK CONGRESS FOR APPROVAL BY THE YEAR. THIS WILL GIVE THE ADMINISTRATION YEAR-BY-YEAR CONTROL OF ISRAEL'S POLITICAL CONDUCT, WHILE CONGRESS WILL HAVE A YEAR-BY-YEAR CHECK ON THE ADMINISTRATION'S POSITION. THE FINAL FORMULA FOR THIS PLAN IS YET TO BE WORKED OUT BY ISRAELI AND US DIPLOMATS AND ISRAEL'S FRIENDS ON CAPITOL HILL."

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, APPROPRIATIONS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TELAV07183
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740361-0161
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741239/aaaabgyx.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 SEP 2002 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <29 JAN 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MULTI-ANNUAL MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR ISRAEL
TAGS: EAID, MASS, IS, (ALLON, YIGAL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005